



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

Office of Public Affairs  
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Illinois, Indiana  
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Ohio, Wisconsin

# U.S. EPA Completes Cleanup Activities at Scrap Processing Superfund Site

Medford, Wisconsin

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## Soil Excavation, Sampling Included in Final Cleanup

The Scrap Processing Company, Inc. (Scrap Processing) soil cleanup was completed in December 1999. To do this, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) conducted the following activities during fall and winter 1999:

- Excavated, treated, and disposed of lead-contaminated soil in an off-site landfill in Wisconsin.

- Sampled soil again after the cleanup activities were completed to ensure that all the soil remaining on site was clean.
- Sampled soil to guarantee it met landfill requirements.
- Installed additional monitoring wells.

- Sampled ground water upon completion of the cleanup.

U.S. EPA will return to the site this spring to seed the property and finish the perimeter fencing. Ground water will also continue to be monitored.



## Superfund Deletion Process Explained

Although contaminated soil has been removed from the site, it will be at least two years before Scrap Processing can be deleted from the Superfund list. Over the next two years, quarterly ground-water samples will be taken at Scrap Processing to verify that ground water beneath the site has not been contaminated by lead. If sampling shows contamination, additional steps will be taken to clean up the ground water.

If the ground water has not been contaminated, and the U.S. EPA and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) conclude that no further cleanup activities are needed, the process may begin to delete Scrap Processing from the Superfund list.



U.S. EPA contractors installed 11 ground-water monitoring wells like the one pictured above (top picture). An excavator loads a railcar with stabilized, contaminated soil. Between 250 and 300 railcars were filled with soil and transported to the licensed Cranberry Creek Landfill in Wisconsin Rapids (bottom picture).

## Background

U.S. EPA, in consultation with WDNR, selected the final cleanup plan for Scrap Processing in September 1999. U.S. EPA selected Alternative E as described in the Feasibility Study (FS). The FS is the document in which U.S. EPA evaluates cleanup alternatives. The alternative involved:

- Excavating lead-contaminated soil.
- Treating the soil, if necessary, and transporting and disposing of the soil in a licensed off-site solid waste landfill.

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### *Background, continued*

- Reviewing ground-water monitoring information to determine the effectiveness of the site cleanup and the possible need for additional actions.

U.S. EPA sampled soil in December 1998 to verify the areas to be cleaned up and to determine if additional areas exceeded the cleanup standard for lead of 500 parts per million. At that time, a preliminary cleanup design report was prepared. According to the December sampling results, one of the samples exceeded the lead standard; therefore, more sampling was done in January 1999. Five of the seven samples taken in January exceeded the standard. All soil exceeding the lead standard required treatment prior to landfill disposal.

Based on the additional sampling information, U.S. EPA developed a

cost-effective method of stabilizing (treating) the soil. A patented mixture of phosphate and magnesium oxide was mixed with the soil. After mixing the soil, samples were collected to ensure that the lead standard was met. After confirmation that the blended soil met the required lead standard, the soil was loaded into railcars and transported to a licensed landfill in Wisconsin Rapids.

## Information Repository

U.S. EPA maintains an information repository, a file that contains documents related to the project and the Superfund program, at:

Medford Public Library  
(Francis L. Simek Memorial Library)  
400 North Main Street  
Medford, WI



## For More Information

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